

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-15, 18-28, and 31-40 are pending in the application.

In the present Office Action, claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9-15, 18-20, 22-25, 27-28, 31-33, and 35-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,477,572 (hereinafter "Elderton"). Applicant has reviewed the examiner's further comments. However, Applicant respectfully submits Elderton does not teach or suggest all of the features of the above claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections and requests reconsideration. Applicant offers the following comments to further clarify the nature of the claimed invention and clarify the distinctions between the claimed invention and the cited art.

The presently claimed invention is generally directed to distributed software applications and their processing. In contrast, Elderton is generally directed to providing a visual display of a network topology. While the claimed invention recites a hierarchy, and Elderton makes reference to a network topology, the two are quite dissimilar.

Currently pending claim 1 recites a method in computer system which includes:

“generating one or more actors on a server, wherein each actor is a functional component of a distributed application;
linking said actors in a first hierarchical tree;
generating a dataset corresponding to a second hierarchical tree, wherein the second hierarchical tree is a subset of the first hierarchical tree;
sending said dataset to a client; and
replicating the second hierarchical tree in said client using said dataset.”

It is noted from the above recitation that the second hierarchical tree is actually replicated in the client. The second hierarchical tree is a subset of the first hierarchical tree. The first hierarchical tree is recited to comprise linked functional components (actors) of a distributed application. Therefore, the second hierarchical tree comprises functional components of the distributed application. In other words, the actors (functional components) which are linked in a hierarchical tree are duplicated on the client. Therefore, there are in fact two separately existing subtrees –

complete with functional components, etc.

In contrast, Elderton does not disclose or suggest literally duplicating functional components of an application as recited. Rather, Elderton merely discloses graphically depicting the topology of a network. For example, Elderton teaches:

“The present invention also describes a task deployment planning method operative in a distributed computer enterprise environment. The method begins discovering attribute values of a plurality of network objects. These attribute values are then stored in a database. In response to a user selection, the routine then builds and displays a topology map for use in planning the task deployment. The map includes at least one icon or symbol representing a set of network objects grouped according to a user-selected attribute value.” (Elderton, col. 2, lines 40-49).

Accordingly, Elderton does not teach or suggest “replicating the second hierarchical tree in said client using said dataset.” Elderton describes performing discovery and displaying a map of the network. Icons or symbols are used to represent network objects. However, Elderton does not teach or suggest somehow literally replicating those network objects. Therefore, Elderton does not teach or suggest the recited features “replicating the second hierarchical tree in said client using said dataset”. It is believed this clarification of the quite distinct natures of the claimed invention as compared to Elderton serve to illustrate that the claimed invention is in fact patentably distinct from the cited art.

In paragraph 19 of the Office Action, Elderton is cited as disclosing these features at col. 6, lines 18-45; and col. 2, lines 1-26. Col. 6, lines 18-45 merely disclose that a network resource located at a node is sometimes referred to as an object. Col. 2, lines 1-26 disclose the above mentioned discovery and display of network topology using icons to represent objects. However, in view of the above discussion, it is believed apparent that Elderton does not disclose the above recited replication.

Accordingly, all of the claim limitations of amended claim 1 are not taught or suggested by the cited prior art and claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited art. Further, because claims 14, 27, and 40 include similar features to that of claim 1, claims 14, 27, and 40 are patentable over the cited art for similar reasons. In addition to the above, claims 8, 21, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elderton in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,369,707 ("Follendore"). In view of the above discussion, Applicant submits each of the pending claims recite features which are neither taught nor suggested by Elderton or Follendore, either singly or in combination. Accordingly, a prima facie case of obviousness is not established.

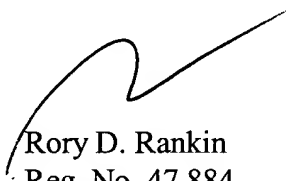
Applicant believes all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner believe there are issues remaining which would prevent allowance of the present application, the below signed representative requests the examiner telephone the representative at (512)853-8866 in order to facilitate a speedy resolution.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant submits that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. If a phone interview would speed allowance of any pending claims, such is requested at the Examiner's convenience.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505\6000-05100\RD

Respectfully submitted,



Rory D. Rankin
Reg. No. 47,884
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin,
Kowert & Goetzel, P.C.
P.O. Box 398
Austin, Texas 78767-0398
Phone: (512) 853-8800

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